

Violation of gratuity rules

2738. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale violations of gratuity rules by a number of companies;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending with the controlling authority regarding settlement of gratuity dues which have been filed against M/s. East India Hotels Ltd., 7 Sham Nath Marg, Delhi;

(c) the action being taken to expedite the settlement;

(d) whether any action has been taken against the above company for adopting different set of rules for different categories of employees;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) There are some complaints above violation of the provisions of the Payment of Gratuity Act, by some companies.

(b) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reversing the decision to reduce the EPF interest rate

2739. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI ABANI ROY:

SHRI JIBON ROY:

SHRI MD. SALIM:

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Ministry is drawn over the news-item appeared in Times of India of 26th July, 2000 with the caption "EPF Trust rejects cut in interest rate";

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to revise its earlier decision to reduce EPF interest rate from 12% to 11%; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is being taken up with the Ministry of Finance.

Educated and Uneducated Unemployed

2740. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of unemployed both educated and uneducated, in rural and urban areas of the country is constantly increasing;

(b) total number of such unemployed in the country for last three years (year-wise separately);

(c) total number of employment provided during the last three years;

(d) whether Government are contemplating to introduce schemes for providing employment to those unemployed youths; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The number of job-seekers (both educated and uneducated), all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the employment exchanges at the end of 1997, 1998 & 1999 was of the order of 391.4, 400.9 & 403.7 lakh respectively.

(c) Number of job-seekers placed in employment through employment exchanges in the country during 1997, 1998 and 1999 was of the order of 2.9, 2.3 and 2.2 lakh respectively.

(d) and (e) The primary objective of the Ninth Plan is to generate greater productive employment in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are more labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rate of unemployment and under employment.

A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission has also been set up to look into the employment generation taking place and suggest measures to